

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A diaphragm for a loudspeaker drive unit, the diaphragm comprising a block of material having a first, sound-radiating front face and a second, rear face, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the block is stiffened by being bound about over the first and second faces by a multiplicity of turns of one or more elongate members of flexible material stiffened by a stiffening composition.

2. (Currently Amended) A diaphragm as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the front face is~~ one or both faces of said block are convex and frusto-conical.

Claims 3-6 (cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A diaphragm as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the block is made of a rigid plastics foam material and the foam is a foam selected from the group consisting of polymethyl methacrylamide foam, and expanded polystyrene foam.

8. (Currently Amended) A diaphragm as claimed in claim ~~7~~ 1, wherein the ~~foam has a density~~ block is made of a rigid plastics foam material having a density selected from the group consisting of more than 20 grams per litre, and between 28 and 35 grams per litre.

Claims 9-11 (cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A diaphragm as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the block contains one or more internal voids.

Claims 13-14 (cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A diaphragm as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the or each elongate member is constituted by a member selected from the group consisting of a bundle of monofilaments, a bundle of plastics material monofilaments, a bundle of paraphenylene polybenzobisoxazole monofilaments, and a bundle of glass fibre monofilaments.

Claims 16-20 (cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A diaphragm as claimed in claim ~~20~~ 38, wherein the body of material is bound about by a number of turns selected from the group between 100 and 500 turns, and between 200 and 400 turns.

Claim 22 (cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) A diaphragm as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein a protective rim is provided at the periphery of the block between the one or more elongate members and the material of the block.

24. (Currently Amended) A diaphragm as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 33, wherein the one or more elongate members are adhesively secured directly to the material of said block.

25. (Currently Amended) A diaphragm as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 38, wherein the said first face of the block of the material and said one or more flexible members are arranged to act directly on the ambient air to radiate sound.

26. (Currently Amended) A diaphragm as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 33, wherein the diaphragm is bonded to a central tubular member for carrying the voice coil of the loudspeaker drive unit.

Claims 27-32 (cancelled)

33. (New) A diaphragm for a loudspeaker drive unit, the diaphragm comprising a block of rigid plastic foam material containing one or more internal voids, said block having a first, sound-radiating front face and a second, rear face, and a multiplicity of turns of one or more elongate members of flexible material stiffened by a stiffening composition bound about over the first and second faces so as to stiffen said block.

34. (New) A diaphragm as claimed in claim 33, wherein the foam is a foam selected from the group consisting of polymethyl methacrylamide foam, and expanded polystyrene foam.

35. (New) A diaphragm as claimed in claim 33, wherein the stiffening composition comprises a composition selected from the group consisting of a resin composition, a styrene resin, an epoxy resin, a cellulose solvent based acrylic resin, a polyurethane resin, a cyanocrylate resin, and a thermosetting phenolic based resin.

36. (New) A diaphragm as claims in claim 33, wherein the block is made of a rigid plastics foam material having a density selected from the group consisting of more than 20 grams per litre, and between 28 and 35 grams per litre.

37. (New) A diaphragm as claimed in claim 33, wherein the or each elongate member is constituted by a member selected from the group consisting of a bundle of monofilaments, a bundle of plastics material monofilaments, a bundle of paraphenylene polybenzobisoxazole monofilaments, and a bundle of glass fibre monofilaments.

38. (New) A diaphragm for a loudspeaker drive unit, the diaphragm comprising a block of rigid plastic foam material, said block having a first, sound-radiating convex front face and a second, convex rear face, and a multiplicity of turns of one or more elongate members of flexible material stiffened by a stiffening composition bound about over the first and second faces so as to stiffen said block.

39. (New) A diaphragm as claimed in claim 38, wherein the block contains one or more internal voids.

40. (New) A diaphragm as claimed in claim 38, wherein the diaphragm is bonded to a central tubular member for carrying the voice coil of the loudspeaker drive unit.

41. (New) A diaphragm as claimed in claim 38, wherein a protective rim is provided at the periphery of the block between the one or more elongate members and the material of the block.